



February 3, 2015

Good afternoon Committee members:

I appear before you this day as a member of and spokesperson for the Connecticut Alarm and Systems Integrators Association. Our association, with membership of 140 companies employing over 1,200 security professionals within the State of Connecticut, unanimously opposes the Proposed Bill 5572, "an act concerning the licensing of alarm and security system installers". The wording of Proposed Bill 5572 duplicates established state licensing programs in operation that have worked well for many years.

A low voltage electrical license, the backbone of the security industry, is currently issued by the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection attesting to the technical competence of those so licensed.

This license encompasses installation of wired burglar, fire, video surveillance, card access control, computer network and home theater systems. Performance of any such work without a license already carries substantial financial penalties up to and including imprisonment for serious violations.

Successful completion of an established two year, 4000 hour program overseen by the Connecticut Department of Labor Apprenticeship program is required prior to a licensing test. All previously mentioned subject matter is covered within the test.

Once licensed each licensee is required by the Connecticut State Department of Consumer Protection to obtain yearly continuing education certification in their perspective field. Failure to provide such documentation involves both a fine structure and non-renewal of the individual's license.

Professional security providers carry a vast insurance package including errors and omissions, and completed operations. Insurance company requirements for obtaining such insurance can include employee screening, random drug testing and review of driving records.

The security alarm industry is, and has been, a self-policing industry. We work in both residential and commercial environments. Both employer and employee is cognoscente of their responsibility to the public and themselves. Most association members currently perform more than one, if not all, of the following:

- Criminal checks at both the state and national level (including arrests and convictions)
- Resume verification
- Fingerprinting
- Motor Vehicle Driving Records verification
- Credit Checks
- Social Security number verification
- Drug testing
- Previous Employer consultations

All of this information is obtained and compiled at the alarm company's expense in excess of any currently available through State channels.

Respectfully submitted: John W. Yusza, Jr., CASIA Legislative Committee Chair, President of Monitor Controls, Inc.

Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association

P.O. Box 7230 • Wilton, CT 06897 • Tel: 203 762-2444 • Fax: 203 762-9211 • E-mail: premes@casiact.org